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...ary.

...from Ottawa says: The new Government wireless stations at Toronto and Port Burwell are now practically completed, and will be ready for operation at the beginning of the new year. They will afford wireless communications for the railway ferries plying all winter on Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. This will give through wireless communication from Port Arthur to Toronto, with the intervening stations at Sault Ste. Marie, Tobermory, Midland and Sarnia, covering Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Georgian Bay and Lake Erie. Next spring the station at Kingston will be opened, giving connection right through to Montreal, and completing the chain from the head of the lakes to Belle Isle.

BANK CLERK DEFAULTS.

North Vancouver Branch of the B.N.A. Is Short $11,000.

A despatch from Vancouver says: Cash in the North Vancouver branch of the Bank of British North America is short $11,000, according to a reliable statement made on Wednesday. It is stated at the bank that the clerk suspected recently applied for leave of absence to get married and had overstayed his time. An investigation resulted, with the above discovery.

TRAINS AND STEAMERS.

Will Make Better Connection at Halifax.

A despatch from Halifax, N.S., says: The Halifax Board of Trade has received a telegram from M. M. Bosworth, vice-president of the C.P.R., stating that the Intercolonial authorities have taken steps to remove the dissatisfaction that his company has had in connection with the train facilities at Halifax on the arrival of the Empress steamers.

IDIOTS IN NEW YORK.

30,000 In the State, But Accommodation for 4,000.

A despatch from Albany, N.Y., says: There are thirty thousand idiots and feeble-minded persons in the State of New York who should be cared for in public institutions, but accommodations for only 4,000 are provided. This is the statement of the Board of Charities. Recommendation is made that more institutions be added and that the construction work on those now being built be expedited.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS.

For Peaceful Settlement for Home Rule Question.

A despatch from London says: The Bishop of London has received from 453 clergymen of his diocese a request to be authorized to have public prayers in their churches for a peaceful settlement of the issue between part of Ulster and the rest of Ireland over the Home Rule question. It is expected that the Bishop will consent, and that the last Sunday of the year will be chosen.

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assist any of

...S USEFUL IN ASIA.

...ren Are Taken Care of by Them —Children in Trunks.

In India it is not an uncommon thing for the children of a mahout—the keeper of one or more elephants—to be cared for by his animals. Instances are not wanting of a mother's systematic placing of her baby in an elephant's care and within reach of its trunk while the mother herself goes to fetch water or to get wood or materials to cook the family meal.

It is pointed out that no jackal or wolf would be likely to pick up and carry off a baby which was thus confided to the care of an elephant. Most people who have lived in the jungle know how very possible it is for an animal of the first class to carry off a baby when it is lying in a hut or when the mother is unprovided with means to fight off the marauder.

Children brought up in the companionship of an elephant become ridiculously familiar with the big pachyderm and take all manner of liberties with him, liberties which the elephant seems to endure on the principle that they do not annoy him while they amuse the child.

One may see, it is averred, a little native child, quite naked, about two feet high, standing on an elephant's bare back and taking it down to the water to bathe, vociferating all the while in most unbecoming terms of native abuse.

On arriving at the water, the elephant ostensibly in obedience to the child's command, lies down and enjoys himself, leaving just a portion of his body, like a small island, above the water. Upon this part of the elephant the child will stand and shout, yelling all the more if he has several companions of his own age also in charge of elephants, all wallowing in the water around him. If the child should slip off his island the elephant's trunk immediately replaces him in safety.

These urchins, when they grow up, become assistants to the mahouts, and in time eventually attain the dignity of becoming mahouts themselves.

10,593 CIVIL SERVANTS.

Superannuation Allowances Total Nearly $500,000.

A despatch from Ottawa says: The total number of permanent officials in the pay of the Federal Government at the end of the last fiscal year, according to a blue book published on Thursday, was 10,593, and the total amount paid in salaries was $11,640,813. During the year 63 civil servants were superannuated, the annual superannuation allowance totalling $53,240. Nearly half a million dollars per year are now paid from the Federal Treasury in superannuation on retirement fund allowances.

Had Remarkable Memory.

One of the most astonishing memonic feats on record is recorded by John Wesley. "I knew a man about twenty years ago," writes Wesley, "who was so thoroughly acquainted with the Bible that if he was questioned as to any Hebrew word in the Old or any Greek word in the New Testament he would tell after a little pause, not only how often the one or the other occurred in the Bible, but also what it meant in every place. His name was Thomas Walsh. Such a master of Bible knowledge I never saw before, and never expect to see again." Walsh had a close rival in Macaulay, who, according to James Stephen, could repeat "all Demosthenes by heart, and all Milton as well as a great part of the Bible."

Ernest Kelly, aged 19, was executed at Manchester, Eng., for killing a book dealer, aged 80. A crowd of 5,000 from Oldham made a demonstration on his behalf outside the jail.

CANADA HAS LOTS OF MONEY

...he Government Has $98,500,000 In Gold Stored Away In the Vaults

...despatch from Ottawa says: A ...of gilded figures has made its ...annual appearance as the "Public Accounts" report. The book tells how many dollars there were in the Dominion treasury at the close of the fiscal year. It tells how many dollars were made in the mint, how much Finance Minister White borrowed, and how much was spent. Among other interesting items in the book is the issue of Dominion notes. The total issue for the year was $39,749,000, which is seven millions less than the year before. A good deal of cleaning up was done, over thirty-three millions being retired and destroyed, or more than twice as much as the year previous.

The largest bill printed for general circulation is $1,000. The de... for them was much reduced. ...dollars worth having been issued in 1912 and only a million dollars last year. The coin factory had a busy year, stamping King George on silver and bronze to the value of about a million and a half dollars. Gold coin was made to about the same amount.

In spite of hard times there is a good deal of money around Canada, even if not much of it is loose. At the close of the year there were bills out to the value of over a hundred and twelve million dollars.

In gold the Government had locked up ninety-eight and a half millions. It is of some interest to observe that of this 98 millions are in Canadian coin, and only a little over four and a half millions in British.

Though Canada kept American gold, it sent back American silver ...the face value of six millions and spent 48 thousand ... to do it.

...are
...great
...converge.
...steamers is
...carry mails and
...in three days and
...the voyage will be carried on to Boston as the port of debarkation on outward cargo.

It is expected that the new route will divert to England much traffic that now goes from America to the Continent by reason of superior speed and shortness.

Wonders of the Wireless.

The development of wireless telegraphy is accomplishing things which a few years ago were regarded as beyond the realm of possibility. When Marconi gave his great discovery to the world the wonders of its future development were undreamed of. We are beginning to realize them. Ocean travel has been made comparatively safe for vessels, messages are flashed thousands of miles between stations, instant communication is made from point to point through vast stretches of primeval forest in wildernesses, and by this wonderful agent the world will soon get information of the phenomena of storms and other natural disturbances of enormous value to mankind. It is predicted that with the cheapening of the wireless system the newspapers of the world will have their own wireless plants and be in communication with all parts of the world, while business houses will have the same convenience. The wireless will also transmit the human voice for immense distances, and it is not incredible that a speech or concert in London may be listened to in any Canadian city.

Modern Unrest.

This is an age of social unrest, and none of the leading industrial countries has been immune from discontent among its workers. Canada, perhaps, has so far been less disturbed than her sister states of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, but the Dominion must sooner or later be confronted with the same problems in the same urgent way. Indeed, those countries have been wise that have been preparing their political conditions to meet the demand for wide and real social reforms. That was necessary if for nothing else than to avoid a civil revolution, and even that phase of the old and world-wide conflict is not over. But he is blind, indeed, who fails to recognize that a movement is under way which can only end in a reconstitution of the social order and of the moral standards of life.

A Good Suggestion.

It is said that a patient entering an English or German hospital for an operation must consent to an autopsy in case of his death. It is suggested by leaders of the movement to raise the standard of American surgery that a similar rule be adopted in American hospitals. A doctor would know that if he made a blunder it would be shown up by a trained pathologist, and there wouldn't be so many blunders. It is an old saying that the mistakes of the doctor are not seen, as they go underground. The European idea is that the hospital autopsy makes better doctors.

Covernment by Commission.

The prairie towns and cities have passed through the throes of an election, and have settled for a year at least, who is to rule them. Probably the most interesting election was in Lethbridge. This go-ahead city has adopted the plan of having three commissioners who are to control the civic administration during 1914. The system abolishes the Aldermanic Council and is a unique departure, Lethbridge being the first city in the west and the second in Canada to adopt the new system. St. John's has the same system in force, and to it is tacked the devices of initiative, referendum and recall. Other cities will watch the outcome of this innovation with a good deal of interest.

FORESTRY FACTS.

Issued By the Dominion Forestry Branch.

There are more than one hundred tree species found in Canada, of which only thirty are conifers. Yet these latter constitute Canada's chief timber wealth. Of these coniferous trees, or "evergreens," spruce easily takes first place, constituting over one-third of the lumber and three-quarters of the pulpwood cut in Canada in 1912. Four of the five species of spruce are of commercial importance, and at least two of these five are found in every province of the Dominion.

This summer an expert soil analyst was engaged by the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Government to substantiate the findings of the forest surveyors in cases where there was any doubt as to the non-agricultural character of forest areas to be reserved.

A novel use has been found for the waste liquor from sulphite pulp mills, as a binder for cinders and similar materials used in the construction of tennis conrts.

That sawdust and other mill waste can be profitably manufactured into briquettes for fuel is evident from the fact that a large lumber company in British Columbia is erecting a $50,000 plant, which will have a daily output of about thirty tons of such briquettes. They will sell for about five dollars a ton at the mill.

During September and October, 1912, several hundred bushels of pine cones were gathered by the Forest Rangers on Dominion Forest Reserves. This work is often made easy by the squirrels, which store large quantities of green cones in holes for use in the winter months. The Rangers spread out the cones in some dry place, and, when the scales open, the seeds are shaken out, and the following spring the best of them are planted in the forest nurseries.

Paper cannon are manufactured by the Krupp works, Germany for infantry use in rough country. They are so light that a soldier can easily carry one and yet the resistance is greater than that of a metal field-piece of the same calibre.

The lock-gates and sills of the Panama Canal are all made from "Greenheart," a large tree found in the dense jungles of northern South America, especially British Guiana. The wood will bear, without crushing, a weight of six tons to the square inch, and will remain sound one hundred years under water, being immune to the attacks of the salt-water teredo. A single log costs several hundred dollars.

The cartage service will be temporarily continued by the C.P.R., C.T.R., C.N.R. and Intercolonial Railways.

Conscience money totalling $620.35 came back during the year to the Customs, Railway and Finance Departments.

Seven power companies exported 101,423 h.p. to the United States this year, while 90,462 h.p. was used in Canada.

The body of John Hulier, of Canton, Ohio, buried at Goderich as unidentified, was exhumed and shipped to Canton.

Frederick Keech, of Gretna, near Deseronto, died suddenly, having been in the latter place the day before in his usual health.

The Y.M.C.A. campaign launched at Oshawa to raise $5,000 for renovations to buildings, resulted in contributions of $6,027.

An agreement has been arrived at between the Detroit River Tunnel Co. and the Michigan Central Railway and the city of Windsor, which it is estimated will net the city $32,000 a year in taxes.

Seven of the ten Hydro-Electric companies operating under Dominion charters, generated 191,986 horsepower during the last year, and of this 101,423 was exported to the United States.

Elsie Whitman and Margaret Johnson, English girls of twenty-seven and twenty-four years, respectively, have for a month been masquerading as C.P.R. telegraph messenger boys in Ottawa, also having worked in J. R. Booth's mills. One is a mother.

Great Britain.

Thomas Hardy, the English novelist, may obtain the Nobel Prize for literature in 1914.

An attempt to blow up part of a wall at Holloway Jail in England was blamed on the militants.

The amount paid by Harry Mallaby-Deeley for the Duke of Bedford's Covent Garden estate in London is now reported at having been $13,750,000 instead of $50,000,000.

United States.

Canadian officials opposed at Washington the proposed embargo on potatoes going into the United States.

Foreigners in New York sent 496,898 money orders aggregating $7,775,000 to the folks at home.

A new Roman Catholic church rule, according to Rev. Jas. McMahon of New York, is to be laid down whereby Protestants believing in divorce cannot wed Roman Catholics.

General.

General Villa, leader of the Mexican rebels, denied that the foreigners were molested at Chihuahua.

ACCIDENT TO CONDUCTOR.

Mr. Mason Smith Loses His Left Hand at the Wrist.

A despatch from Belleville says: Mr. Mason Smith, a G.T.R. freight conductor of this city, had the misfortune to lose his left hand at the wrist by an accident at Napanee on Thursday morning. He attempted to board a moving car by seizing the side bar, which pulled out of the wood and his hand fell on the track; before he could move the wheel had run over it. He was given treatment at Napanee and later brought to Belleville Hospital. The hand had to be amputated.

FARMER'S SAD PLIGHT.

Wife Dead Six Weeks Before He Could Bury Her.

A despatch from Kenora, Ont., says: Frank Cutler, a farmer at Falcon Island, forty-five miles from here, on the Lake of the Woods, arrived here on Thursday with the body of his wife, who had died during child-birth on the 5th of November. Owing to the freeze-up of the lake then he was unable to come to town, not having a power boat, and until the ice had formed he could not travel. Besides the infant six other young children are left, and during his absence are being cared for by a neighbor.

THE FIRST VICTIM.

Napoleon Proulx, a Cab Driver, Sent Up for White Slavery.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Napoleon Proulx, a local hackman, has the doubtful distinction of being the first victim of the white slave act in this city. On Thursday the Deputy Magistrate sentenced Proulx to two years in prison on information supplied by Inspector McLaughlin, Chief of the Morality Squad.

Kumfort Overshoes
Rubbers and Over-Stockings in One.
Easy to put on and take off. Fit well—Look well—Wear well. Keep your feet warm and dry.
Buy them now. Protect yourself and family against sickness later on.
Canadian Consolidated Rubber Co. Limited, Montreal.
At Dealers

for
Peas—...
Barley—Good malting barley, ... outside.
Corn—New No. 3, American, 74 to 74 1-2c, all rail, Toronto.
Rye—No. 2 at 65 to 65c, outside.
Buckwheat—70c, outside, with none offering.
Bran—Manitoba bran, $21 to $21.50 a ton, in bags, Toronto freight. Shorts, $22.50, Toronto.

Country Produce.

Butter—Choice dairy, 23 to 24c; inferior, 20 to 21c; farmers' separator prints, 24 to 25c; creamery prints, 30 to 31c; solids, 28 to 29c; storage prints, 27 to 28c; do., 26 to 26 1-2c.

Eggs—Case lots of new-laid, 45 to 48c per dozen; selects, 37 to 38c, and storage, 32 to 35c per dozen.

Cheese—New cheese, 14 1-2 to 14 3-4c for large, and 15c for twins.

Beans—Hand-picked, $2.20 to $2.25 per bushel; primes, $2 to $2.10.

Honey—Extracted, in tins, 11 to 12c per lb. for No. 1; combs, $3 to $3.25 per dozen for No. 1, and $2.40 to $2.50 for No. 2.

Poultry—Fowl, 10 to 12c per lb; chickens, 14 to 16c; ducks, 12 to 14c; geese, 11 to 14c; turkeys, 18 to 21c.

Potatoes—Ontarios, 80 to 85c per bag, on track, and Delawares at 90c.

Baled Hay and Straw.

Baled hay—No. 1 at $14.50 to $15 a ton, on track, here; No. 2 at $13 to $13.50, and mixed at $12 to $12.50.

Baled straw—Car lots, $8.50 to $8.75, on track, Toronto.

Provisions.

Bacon—Long clear, 16c per lb., in case lots. Pure Shortening, $28.50; do., incas. $24.50. Hams—Medium to light, 19 1-2 to 20c; heavy, 19c; rolls, 15 1-2c to 16c; breakfast bacon, 19 to 20c; backs, 23 to 24c.

Lard—Tierces, 13 3-4 to 14c; tubs, 14 to 14 1-4c; pails, 14 1-4 to 14 1-2c.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, Dec. 24.—Corn, American No. 2 yellow, 80 to 81c. Oats, Canadian Western, No. 2, 41 1-2 to 42c; do., No. 3, 40 1-2 to 41c. Barley, Man. feed, 48 to 50c; malting, 64 to 66c. Buckwheat, No. 2, 56 to 57c. Flour, Man. Spring wheat patents, firsts, $5.40; do., seconds, $4.90; strong bakers', $4.70; Winter patents, choice, $4.75 to $5; straight rollers, $4.50 to $4.60; straight rollers, bags, $2 to $2.10. Rolled oats, barrels, $4.40 to $4.50; rolled oats, 90 lbs., $2.10 to $2.12 1-2. Bran, $20 to $21. Shorts, $22 to $23. Middlings, $25 to $26. Moullie, $27 to $28. Hay, No. 2 per ton, car lots, $14 to $15. Cheese, finest westerns, 13 3-4 to 14c; finest easterns, 13 1-4 to 13 1-2c. Butter, choicest creamery, 28 1-2 to 29c; seconds, 26 to 28 1-2c. Eggs, fresh, 55 to 60c; selected, 38c; No. 1 stock, 34c; No. 2 stock, 26c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, 75 to 85c.

Winnipeg Grain.

Winnipeg, Dec. 24.—Cash—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 82 1-2c; No. 2, do., 79 3-4c; No. 3, do., 77c; No. 1 rejected, seeds, 76 1-2c; No. 2, do., 74 1-2c; No. 1 smutty, 76 1-2c; No. 2, do., 74 1-2c; No. 1 red Winter, 82 1-2c; No. 2, do., 80c; No. 3, do., 78c. Oats—No. 2 C.W., 33 3-4c; No. 3, do., 32c; extra No. 1 feed, 32 1-4c; No. 1 feed, 31c; No. 2, do., 30c. Barley—No. 3, 42 1-2c; No. 4, 40 1-2c; rejected, 37 1-2c; feed, 37c. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $1.20; No. 2 C.W., $1.18.

United States Markets.

Minneapolis, Dec. 24.—Wheat—December, 84 3-4c; May, 87 3-4c. Cash—No. 1 hard, 88 1-4c; No. 1 Northern, 84 3-4 to 87 1-2c; No. 2, do., 82 3-4 to 85 1-2c; No. 3 wheat, 81 3-4 to 83 1-2c. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 60 3-4 to 61 1-4c. Oats—No. 3 white, 37 to 37 1-4c. Flour and bran—Unchanged.

Duluth, Dec. 24.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, 87 1-4c; No. 1 Northern, 86 1-4c; No. 2, do., 84 1-8 to 84 5-8c; Montana No. 2 hard, 88 7-8c; December, 84 1-8c; May, 88 1-8 to 88 1-4c. Linseed—$1.45; December, $1.42 3-4; May, $1.48.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—Cattle—Choice butchers, $8 to $8.75; good medium, $6.50 to $7.25; common, $5 to $5.50; cows, $4.50 to $7.25; common cows, $3.50 to $4; butchers' bulls, $3.75 to $7.25; canners and cutters, $3.50 to $4. Calves—Good veal, $8.75 to $11; common, $5.75 to $6.50. Stockers and feeders—Steers, 910 to 1,050 lbs., $6 to $6.75; good quality, 800 lbs., $4.50 to $5.25; light, $3.50 to $5.50. Sheep and lambs—Light ewes, $5.50 to $6; heavy, $3 to $3.50; bucks, $2 to $3.50; spring lambs, $8.50 to $9, but with 75c per head deducted for all the buck lambs. Hogs—$8.75 to $8.85, fed and watered, and $8.95 to $9.10 off cars, $8.25 to $8.40 f.o.b.

Montreal, Dec. 24.—A carload of prime beeves was sold at 8c a pound. Medium animals sold at 6 to 7 3-4c; common, 4 to 5 3-4c; large bulls, 4 1-2 to 6 1-2c; and canners, 3 to 3 1-2c; milch cows, $40 to $50 each; calves, 4 to 8c; sheep, 5 to 6c; lambs, 8 to 8 1-2c. Hogs about 9 1-3c.

PURE AIR AND IMPURE.

Not So Bad to Breathe Foul Air, Says English Physiologist.

Fresh air fiends will get little support for their propaganda in the views of Professor Leonard Hill, an English physiologist. He maintains that bad air is not so very bad, after all. He says it is an erroneous idea that the air of close, crowded rooms is contaminated by the exhalations of human beings and is impoverished of oxygen.

It is the heat in a close room that makes us feel uncomfortable, not the lack of oxygen or the surplus of carbonic acid in the air, according to the professor. The only effect of an excess of carbonic acid supposed to be very poisonous is to make us breathe deeply and ventilate our lungs more fully. As for the loss of oxygen in a close room, "it is never diminished by more than one per cent., for the cracks, crannies and pores of the walls always suffice to let fresh air in."

However that may be—and a layman should hesitate to dispute a scientist—it can hardly be denied that pure outdoor air tastes and smells much better than the air in even a ventilated room. One may be as wholesome as the other, as far as its constituents are concerned, but most folks will prefer air that has not been breathed in and out too often. In the popular mind, if not in scientific fact, headaches and drowsiness are closely associated with impure air.

About Company.

Company is one of the greatest pleasures of the nature of man; for the beams of joy are made better by reflection, when related to another; and otherwise, gladness itself must grieve for want of one to express itself to. It is unnatural for a man to court and hug solitariness; yet a desert is better than a debauched companion, for the wildness of the place is but uncheerful, while the wildness of bad persons is infectious.—Fuller.

hours, that is, ... after eleven o'clock p.m. week days and seven o'clock Saturdays will be prohibited from delivering orders even if they were placed before closing hours. Another clause provides that liquors shall not be sold C.O.D. This will, to some extent, eliminate telephone orders. Another striking clause prohibits statements in advertisements published in periodi-

...or the transf... ...shall go to the Governme... and another clause provides th... license holders operating open ba... shall pay 25 per cent. more th... those operating under the Eur... pean style of tables. This is to e... courage the elimination of the ba... The Government also defines wh... liquor is by stating that "anythin... with more than two and a half pe... cent. of spirits shall be classed a... liquor."

THE MORMON PRESIDENT.

Edwin J. Wood Controls the Life of 7,000 People in Canada.

One of the most popular men in Southern Alberta is Edwin J. Wood, president of the Mormon Church in Canada. While Mr. Wood is greatly attached to his church, he is nevertheless broad enough to believe in tolerance to all denominations holding religious worship in the confines of the large stretch of country which the Mormon people have taken over to themselves.

It is now 26 years since Mormon settlements of Southern Alberta began. In that year Charles Ora Card, after whom Cardston, the Temple City of Alberta, came with a dozen Mormons and settled along the St. Mary's River in Southern Alberta. This was the nucleus of the 7,000 Mormons to be found in Canada to-day.

President Wood has entire control of this Mormon population insofar as their relation to the church is concerned, and relation to the Mormon Church means business, social and religious affiliation. Everything the Mormon does is controlled by the church. His business

President E. J. Wood.

is better known by the president than by his banker. His goods are the church's if the church wishes to use them. Over matters of this kind Mr. Wood has direct jurisdiction.

When the church undertook to purchase the old Cochrane ranch in Southern Alberta, it was Mr. Wood who did the business for his organization. Some 65,000 acres were involved in the deal, and the Canadian president has had the selling of this tract in small parcels to Mormon people from Utah and other Mormon colonies.

Edwin J. Wood is also the stockman of the church. When the large tract of land was purchased a number of cattle went with it. The herd has now increased to several thousand, and these this man has under control. He sells to whom he pleases. No one in Canada asks where the money goes. No good Mormon dare doubt the integrity of President Wood.

The responsibility of finding material for a $300,000 temple is now engaging the attention of Mr. Wood. The new structure is to be at Cardston in Southern Alberta, and it will be the first on British soil. Marble must be secured, arrangements made for hauling material, workmen employed, and a thousand other things to engage his attention.

A Mormon president does not receive any salary. President Wood is supposed to do all this gratis. He is a man of considerable wealth, amassed probably before his appointment to the presidency, and can afford to give the time.

It has been said that his wives number more than one. This has been disproved on several occasions. Mr. Wood, however, believes in the principle of polygamy, although he advises his people to refrain from the practice because of the law of the land forbids it.

The Conqueror's Return.

"I was rather embarrassed," the amateur hunter confessed.

"Why so?"

"When I got back to camp after my first day out the fellows greeted me by singing, 'See the Conquering Hero Comes.' And all I had done was shoot off my guide's left ear."

Our London Letter

Wedding Rings for the Poor.

Muriel Viscountess Helmsley has offered to supply the wedding rings to paupers' brides in Lambeth. Lady Helmsley has succeeded her mother, the late Dowager Lady Shrewebury, on the ladies' committes of the Lambeth Board of Guardians.

At a meeting of the board last week the committee reported that it had accepted Lady Helmsley's offer to continue the practice inaugurated by her mother of supplying wedding rings in cases where marriages are arranged in the workhouse, and also to assist, when required, in providing clothing for married women.

The idea of marriages being made in the workhouse may appear curious, but it happens that young women sometimes have to enter the lying-in wards of the workhouse. The Poor Law can do little for them, but the ladies' committee is able to give them valuable aid, as well as advice. In many such cases the committee succeeds in marrying the women to the fathers of their children.

To Stop the High Cost of Bacon.

Bacon is at something ... 36 cents a pound. It is so dear ... organizing effort is to be made ... population," which has ... almost as low a pitch in Engl... be remembered.

A scheme is being dr... the Board of Agriculture by ... hoped to restore the pig once more ... the exalted position of "the gentleman ... at pays the rent."

It is hoped to set up bacon factories in a great many districts, somewhat on the model of the Hitchin factory established largely through the generosity and initiative of Lord Lucas. These practical farmers who are outlining a scheme to make these factories possible will recommend the production of what may be called a "standard porker." If a "good level pig" can be produced to type by farmers the factory ought to pay well and the farmer get both good and quick returns. According to the description of one enthusiast, we may see flocks of "good level pigs" grazing on the clovers like sheep, and looking as uniform.

Fishermen to Have Wireless.

Another advance in applying wireless telegraphy to minimize the perils of the sea has been taken by one of the fishing companies operating in the North Sea. A ship fitted with an apparatus of a 200 mile range is to be posted near the Dogger bank.

The admirals' boats attached to each fishing fleet are also to be equipped with wireless installations. These will be in constant communication with the stationary vessel, and there whereabouts recorded on a chart at the shore station. In addition to the convenience this will mean to owners in knowing the movements of the fleets and the state of the catch it will be of valuable use in summoning aid for the boats in time of peril. Hitherto there have been anxious times ashore whenever a search boat has returned without news of the fleet, and many a fishing crew has been lost through being powerless to call for assistance. Further, wireless communication will necessarily imply a saving in the cost of fishing.

Dean Inge's Epigrams.

Dr. Inge, Dean of St. Paul's, London, in an address on "Liberal Education," at West Hill College, Hampstead, said the examination system had done more than anything else to poison education in the old country. The memory, when most retentive, was loaded with barren facts. When the examinations were over, the mind, so long drawn tight, like an overstrung bow, sprang back, and very often threw away a great deal of what had been laboriously learned. The greatest enemy of all was the ingrained contempt for the intellectual life in England. Even in Shakespeare, was it not true that the most intelligent men were generally the greatest villains? Shakespeare seemed to consider that there was a subtle affinity between intellectualism and rascality. In Milton's "Paradise Lost" the intelligent inquisitive mind was that of Satan.

Spirits Are Losing Favor.

Interesting facts are given in the tables forming the sixteenth abstract of later statistics of the United Kingdom.

Cocoa and tea, it appears, are increasing in popularity, but coffee is declining. Last year 1.7 pounds of cocoa per head were consumed, as compared with only a pound in 1898 and 1899, since when time there has been a steady rise. 6.5 pounds per head is the consumption of tea, compared with 5.8 pounds in 1898. Only 0.6 pound of coffee is consumed, and three years ago the figure was 0.7 pound, and in 1901, 0.8 pound.

Spirits have steadily fallen from 1.1 gallons in 1899 to 0.7 gallon in 1912, but tobacco has risen from 1.8 pounds to 2.1 pounds in the same period. Meat has fluctuated, the highest being 132.3 pounds in 1901, and the lowest 125.5 in 1910; last year the consumption was 131.2 pounds. The home consumption of wheat has risen from 220.9 million bushels in 1898 to 231.6 last year.

Candy to Replace Alcohol.

One of the most curious results of the decrease in the consumption of alcoholic drinks is that men of all sorts and conditions eat sweets again. In country houses after a shoot young men of five and twenty devour large slices of plum cake with their tea, and it is rare nowadays to see a man pass the sweets at dinner.

On the other hand, since women have taken to serious and often excessive cigarette smoking their taste for candies and puddings has grown notably less. Man has gone back to the nursery. Woman now lives in the smoking room.

London, Dec. 24, 1913.

Family Zoo.

"It's funny, ain't it, that everybody in our family's some kind of an animal?"

"Some kind of an animal, Bobby? What do you mean?"

"Why, mother's a dear, know."

"Yes, certainly. And my ... sister's mother's little lamb, and I'm the kid, and dad's the goat."

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